MODERN GREEK STUDIES FOUNDATION

# Μαντατοφορος

The Nikos Kazantzakis Chair

CENTER FOR MODERN GREEK STUDIES
SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 1987 | *MANDATOPHOROS: Bearer of news, messenger | VOL. 3, No. 1

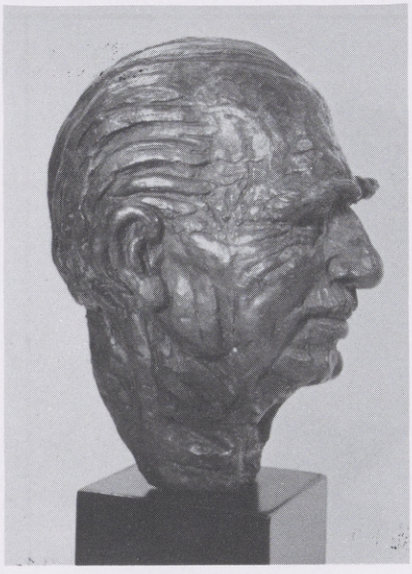
## SPECIAL COURSE: "MODERN GREEK HISTORY & CULTURE" COME ONE, COME ALL!!!

**Professor Epaminondas Panagopoulos** will be teaching a special course on *Modern Greek History & Culture* during the spring semester, 1987, at San Francisco State University. Sponsored by the **Modern Greek Studies Foundation/Center for Modern Greek Studies**, the course is being given in the evenings especially for people in the community (THAT'S YOU!!!). Class begins on February 3 and will be held every Tuesday from 7 to 9:45 p.m. in the Humanities Building, room #151, on the S.F.S.U. campus.

The class will cover the socio-political and economic developments in contemporary Greece main-

*Continued page 3*

*Nondas Panagopoulos*



*Portrait of Nikos Kazantzakis*

## AXION AWARD LUNCHEON AND SCULPTURE DEDICATION SET

On Sunday, February 8, 1987, the **Hellenic American Professional Society** will cap *Greek Letters Week* with their annual AXION Award ceremony. The AXION Award, bestowed on distinguished members of the Bay Area Greek/Greek-American community, will this year be given to the late S.F. city attorney **George Agnost** (to be accepted by Mrs. Rosa Agnost) and scholar and educator **Dr. Epaminondas Panagopoulos** at a gourmet luncheon celebration. The **Center for Modern Greek Studies** will also be honored for its contribution to Greek Arts and Letters.

The AXION festivities will begin at 12:30 p.m. at the Seven Hills Conference Center on the San Francisco State University campus. In addition, a bronze head of Nikos Kazantzakis by Greek

*Continued page 2*

*Learning Greek is wild and fun--just ask students in the beginning and intermediate modern Greek courses at S.F.S.U.! Pictured above are several avid Grecophiles dancing the night away while Andreas and friends provide musical and vocal accompaniment at a smoky taverna (where else?), scene of a recent class gathering. Join in the Greek experience by registering in one of the several language courses available--call the Center for Modern Greek Studies at 469-1892 for the schedule.*

## AXION Award (continued)

sculptor **George Koras** will be unveiled and dedicated. Mr. Koras, whose work was commissioned and donated by the Maria Callas Memorial Portrait Fund in New York, will be present at the ceremony.

The scheduled events promise to be exciting and rewarding for all those committed to Greek Letters. Space is limited so reserve early--call Patricia Aleck at (415) 566-8544 (San Francisco) or Anastasia Condas at (415) 538-3769 (East Bay) for information.

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## MODERN GREEK STUDIES COURSES - SPRING 1987

HISTORY 349 *Modern Greek History & Culture*
Tues. 7:00-9:45 p.m.
Humanities Bldg., Rm. 151
Instructor:
Epaminondas Panagopoulos

GREEK 251 *Modern Greek II*
(Second Semester)
MWF 12:10-1:00 p.m.
Humanities Bldg., Rm. 282
Instructor: Effie Kalafatis

GREEK 251e *Modern Greek II*
(Second Semester)
Wed. 7:00-9:45 p.m.
Humanities Bldg., Rm. 345
Instructor: Effie Kalafatis

GREEK 470 *Modern Greek IV*
(Advanced)
MWF 1:10-2:00 p.m.
Humanties Bldg., Rm. 282
Instructor: TBA

Non-University students can register in these courses through San Francisco State University's Extended Education. Call Extended Education at 469-1373 or the Department of Classics at 469-2068 for details.

*The well-attended Dorian Singers choral performance on Sun., Nov. 2., was sponsored by the Center for Modern Greek Studies and the Hellenic American Professional Society. Audience response was characterized by such superlatives as "excellent!" and "just beautiful." Above are Prof. Thanasis Maskaleris (director of the CMGS) and Prof. Tikey Zes, director of the Dorians; to the far right are several members of the group and to the near right are happy minglers at the reception, which followed the program.*

## NEW CONTRIBUTORS TO THE MGSF

*Hellenic American Professional Society*
*Pan Macedonian Association (S.F.)*
*Patricia Aleck* *Elizabeth Anderson*
*Lilica Anderson* *Nicoletta Arnest*
*Ann Arpajolu* *John Cambus*
*Christina Duvaras* *Marina Hall*
*Totten & Joanne Heffelfinger*
*George Lekas* *Mary Nicholson*
*Nicholas & Patricia Petrakis*
*David Schermerhorn* *Glenn Schmoll*
*Nicholas & Katherine Stamatakis*
*John & Dorothea Vasil*
*Athena Vutiritsas*

### Panagopoulos to teach (continued)

ly from 1821 to the present day--tracing their antecedents back to the fall of Constantinople in 1453. The history of modern Greek literature and intellectual thought, architecture, painting, theater, and music will be examined in relation to concurrent European trends. In addition, the significance of Greece's geographic location as the crossroads of East and West will be studied not only through the geo-political and international relations of the country but through its impact on Greek culture. Texts include Richard Clogg's *A Short History of Modern Greece* and other selections by Greek, Greek-American and other authors. Dr. Panagopoulos emphasizes that his course "aspires to help in understanding the complicated and dramatic historical developments of Greece, as well as her vital contributions to the world of Arts and Letters."

Dr. Panagopoulos is a respected historian and distinguished professor. He is author of *Nea Smyrna* and *Essays on the History and Meaning of Checks and Balances*, among other works, and we are extremely pleased to be able to offer this course with an instructor of his high caliber. Non-University students are welcome and encouraged to attend--register through Extended Education at the first class meeting (the fee is $195; call the Center for Modern Greek Studies at 469-1892/2068 for further information). Take advantage of this tremendous opportunity to learn about the modern Greek heritage and traditions from our expert, visiting professor--**SEE YOU THERE!!!**

## "...between the spirit and the flesh..."

**The following excerpt is from Nikos Kazantzakis' prologue in *Report to Greco*, and is translated below by Peter Bien.**

*Ἡ δυαδικὴ ὑπόσταση τοῦ Χριστοῦ στάθηκε γιὰ μένα πάντα βαθύ, ἀνεξερεύνητο μυστήριο· ἡ λαχτάρα, ἡ τόσο ἀνθρώπινη, ἡ τόσο ὑπεράνθρωπη, νὰ φτάσει ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὡς τὸ Θεό—ἤ, πιὸ σωστά: νὰ ἐπιστρέψει ὁ ἄνθρωπος στὸ Θεὸ καὶ νὰ ταυτιστεῖ μαζί του· ἡ νοσταλγία αὐτή, ἡ τόσο μυστικὴ καὶ συνάμα τόσο πραγματική, ἄνοιγε μέσα μου πληγὲς καὶ πηγὲς μεγάλες.*

*Ἀπὸ τὴ νεότητά μου ἡ πρωταρχικὴ ἀγωνία μου, ἀπὸ ὅπου πήγαζαν ὅλες μου οἱ χαρὲς κι ὅλες μου οἱ πίκρες, ἦταν τούτη: ἡ ἀκατάπαυτη, ἀνήλεη πάλη ἀνάμεσα στὸ πνέμα καὶ στὴ σάρκα.*

*Μέσα μου παμπάλαιες ἀνθρώπινες καὶ προανθρώπινες σκοτεινὲς δυνάμες τοῦ Πονηροῦ· μέσα μου παμπάλαιες ἀνθρώπινες καὶ προανθρώπινες φωτερὲς δυνάμες τοῦ Θεοῦ· κι ἡ ψυχή μου ἦταν ἡ παλαίστρα ὅπου οἱ δυὸ τοῦτοι στρατοὶ χτυπιοῦνταν κι ἔσμιγαν.*

*Ἀγωνία μεγάλη· ἀγαποῦσα τὸ σῶμα μου, καὶ δὲν ἤθελα νὰ χαθεῖ· ἀγαποῦσα τὴν ψυχή μου, καὶ δὲν ἤθελα νὰ ξεπέσει· μάχουμουν νὰ φιλιώσω τὶς δυὸ αὐτὲς ἀντίδρομες κοσμογονικὲς δυνάμες, νὰ νιώσουν πὼς δὲν εἶναι ὀχτροί, εἶναι συνεργάτες, καὶ νὰ χαροῦν, νὰ χαρῶ κι ἐγὼ μαζί τους, τὴν ἁρμονία.*

"The dual substance of Christ--the yearning, so human, so superhuman, of man to attain to God or, more exactly, to return to God and identify himself with him--has always been a deep inscrutable mystery to me. This nostalgia for God, at once so mysterious and so real, has opened in me large wounds and also large flowing springs.

My principal anguish and the source of all my joys and sorrows from my youth onward has been the incessant, merciless battle between the spirit and the flesh.

Within me are the dark immemorial forces of the Evil One, human and pre-human; within me too are the luminous forces, human and pre-human, of God--and my soul is the arena where these two armies have clashed and met.

The anguish has been intense. I loved my body and did not want it to perish; I loved my soul and did not want it to decay. I have fought to reconcile these two primordial forces which are so contrary to each other, to make them realize that they are not enemies but, rather, fellow workers, so that they might rejoice in their harmony--and so that I might rejoice with them."

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# SUPPORT THE GOALS OF THE MODERN GREEK STUDIES FOUNDATION!

## *TO THE HELLENIC & PHILHELLENIC COMMUNITY:*

Since 1981 the **Modern Greek Studies Foundation** has been actively working to provide support for the academic and cultural programs of the **Center for Modern Greek Studies** by establishing an endowed **Chair in Modern Greek Literature, History and Culture** at San Francisco State University. Great progress has been made. Courses are offered regularly in modern Greek language and literature; a course in Modern Greek History is given periodically; lectures and cultural events are planned on a continuing basis. In 1983 the **Nikos Kazantzakis Chair** was inaugurated. During the spring semester of 1986, Greek-American poet and translator Kimon Friar became the first distinguished visiting professor to the Chair, delivering a series of lectures and teaching courses on modern Greek poetry and on Kazantzakis.

The Modern Greek Studies program is already beginning to have a significant impact on our cultural life in Northern California. But we still have much to do. We have raised just under $300,000 of the $500,000 necessary to maintain the program at its optimum level. This is due largely to the generosity of one major donor, and the support of other private donors and Greek-American organizations. Until we have raised the rest of the required endowment funds, however, the Center will not be able to fully develop its academic curriculum, sponsor other visiting scholars and artists, nor present cultural programs and activities on the University campus and in the community-at-large. Also, much remains to be done in collecting archive materials to record the history of the Greek immigrants in California, and in developing a richer collection of library resources in support of instruction and research at the Center.

We are appealing to you because we believe you have an interest in Greek culture and are committed to the fostering of Hellenic traditions in our society. Each year we celebrate *Greek Letters Week* in connection with the Church feast of the Three Hierarchs, an event which demonstrates the deep, enduring commitment we have maintained for Hellenic Letters and education. Your help is essential in realizing this goal of fully endowing the Chair in Modern Greek Studies as soon as possible. Your contribution is tax deductible in accordance with present tax laws. Those interested in establishing special memorial or other scholarships are encouraged to contact the Foundation or the Center.

Sincerely,

Nicholas C. Petris

**Nicholas C. Petris, President**
**Modern Greek Studies Foundation**